

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9876

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3167

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, VS

SUBJECT: KOREAN DIPLOMATS IN SAIGON

REF: SEOUL 3162 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO ROK FOREIGN MINISTRY ROK AMBASSADOR IN PARIS HAS HEARD FROM FRENCH THAT THERE IS POSSIBILITY KOREAN DIPLOMATS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE SAIGON ALONG WITH OTHER DIPLOMATS WHO WISH TO DO SO. O DID NOT KNOW ON WHAT THIS JUDGMENT IS BASED, BUT SAID FRENCH HAD TOLD ROK AMBASSADOR THAT THEIR OWN EMBASSY WAS BEING BETTER TREATED BY PRG THAN THEIR PHNOM PENH STAFF HAD BEEN BY KHMER ROUGE.

2. O SAID THAT QUAI HAD SAID FRENCH EMBASSY IN SAIGON WOULD NOT GET IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH KOREAN DIPLOMATS THERE, NOR WOULD IT "INVITE" THEM INTO FRENCH COMPOUND. ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH KOREANS THROUGH JAPANESE EMBASSY TO INFORM THEM THAT FRENCH COMPOUND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR REFUGE, FRENCH MADE NO CLEAR-CUT RESPONSE. O TOOK LACK OF RESPONSE AS INDICATION FRENCH MIGHT FOLLOW THIS COURSE OF ACTION. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID, ROKG WOULD TRY TO GET MESSAGE KOREANS ADVISING THEM TO TRY TO SEEK REFUGE WITH FRENCH.
SNEIDER

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